



Safe Parking Proposal: Candlestick Point State Recreation Area Vehicle Triage Center

Background - Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, unhoused people in approximately 100-150 vehicles have lived in the vicinity of the Candlestick Point State Recreation Area (SRA). California State Parks staff, community based social service providers, and San Francisco City departments have collaborated to place people into housing and shelter. Yet there is still immense need in the area. In response, the City proposed a temporary Vehicle Triage Center site on an unused boat launch parking lot in Candlestick Point SRA.

After significant discussion with community-based organizations, neighborhood leaders and City department, HSH is proposing to open a Vehicle Triage Center (VTC) for people living in approximately 155 vehicles to stay safely, access services, and connect to housing resources to exit homelessness.

The unused boat launch parking lot, which the State Recreation Area, the City and County of San Francisco, and the community stakeholders all agree is the best area for the VTC, is owned by the State Lands Commission and leased to California State Parks.

A Vehicle Triage Center in Bayview is a City Priority

The Bayview neighborhood is the most significantly impacted area of the City for vehicular homelessness. A City count in June 2021 found [677 occupied vehicles in District 10](#). City Leaders and community stakeholders have prioritized the creation of a VTC in the Bayview. The site would prioritize people living in their vehicles in the nearby area for placement. HSH's original VTC pilot, which ended in March 2021, demonstrated that this program model is an effective way to provide services, as well as a safe place to sleep for this population.

This project is also key to San Francisco's commitment to equity. The Bayview Hunter's Point Neighborhood is home to just four percent of San Franciscans, but more than 20 percent of the City's Black residents; it is also a historically under-resourced area.¹ This VTC would address the urgent needs of unhoused people, help neighbors and businesses in the Bayview who are impacted by vehicle encampments, and restore access to a critical local recreation space for Bayview residents.

Facilities and Location

The Candlestick Point SRA Vehicle Triage Center would include space for up to 155 vehicles with 177 guests.

- Site fits 86 RVs and 69 passenger vehicles, including 37 secondary vehicles with no occupants.
- There would be 9 accessible parking spaces and a family zone.
- Amenities would include fencing, toilets, electricity, blackwater pumping, offices and meeting space, mobile showers, laundry, lighting, and pedestrian and vehicle gates for entry and exit.
- Services would include case management and 24/7 staffing and security.

¹ Source: 2019 American Community Survey with the Bayview area defined as zip code 94124.





Timeline and Budget Sources

2020 – San Francisco identified the Candlestick Point SRA as a potential Vehicle Triage Center location. State parks officials lend their support to the proposal.

Winter - Spring 2021: Key community stakeholders expressed support for moving the Vehicle Triage Center location forward in a letter to City.

Summer 2021: The City’s Fiscal Year 21-23 budget was finalized, with resources dedicated to two new safe parking programs – which includes a Vehicle Triage Center. The City then moved forward with key stakeholder meetings for the site and coordinated with fellow city departments on logistics for security, encampment outreach and resolution, street cleaning, and parking enforcement in the area.

Fall/ Winter 2021: Gain approval for the project from the Board of Supervisors and the State Lands Commission during the fall and open the project by the end of the year.

Candlestick Point Vehicle Triage Center: Program Design

San Francisco’s Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing (HSH) will contract with a nonprofit service provider to operate and provide services at the Candlestick Point vehicle Triage Center (VTC). The model provides people living in their vehicles with a safe place to park and live off city streets while engaging in services designed to help stabilize their lives through health care, housing, employment or other interventions that meet their unique needs.

The VTC will not only provide critical and stabilizing services to its guests but will also provide an alternative to street encampments that impact the entire community.

The target population will include single adults, couples, and some families encamped in the area surrounding the Candlestick SRA. Families will be placed in a separate private area from the rest of the guests close to the staff offices. The onsite clinical team will work to support families at the VTC site. Families and all clients will be required to complete a Coordinated Entry housing assessment.

Guests will be referred to the program through SFHOT and HSOC. Clients can park their vehicle within the VTC parking lot and remain sleeping in their vehicle while accessing case management and other



stabilization services. Case management staff will be present on site and will work closely with clients. Although food will not be provided on site, staff will create a shopping account at the San Francisco Food Bank to assist guests with food security. Staff that are trained to provide Coordinated Entry assessments and Problem-Solving conversations, and interventions will be provided on site and offer to all program participants. Clients who are assessed for housing within the system of care will be well-supported moving through the process. Clients that are assessed and are determined to be in Problem Solving status will work with case managers to find creative ways to mitigate their homelessness. All the case management services will be harm reduction focused and strength based.

The onsite services will include:

- Bathrooms and sanitation stations
- Mobile blackwater pumping
- Office and confidential meeting space
- Electricity and lights
- Mobile showers and laundry
- Security cameras and 24/7 staffing
- Case management including housing assessment and placement services
- Mobile health and medical treatment

